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R-585-12-7-32
NON-SAMPLING SITE RECONNAISSANCE SUMMARY REPORT
JENKINS TOWNSHIP LANDFILL
PREPARED UNDER

TDD NO. F3-8710-35
EPA NO. PA-1807
CONTRACT NO. 68-01-7346

FOR THE
HAZARDOUS SITE CONTROL DIVISION
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

DECEMBER 17, 1987

NUS CORPORATION
SUPERFUND DIVISION

SUBMITTED BY

REVIEWED BY

APPROVED BY

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Scope of Work

NUS FIT 3 was tasked to conduct a non-sampling site reconnaissance at the Jenkins Township Landfill site, located in Port Blanchard, Pittston, Pennsylvania.

Background Information

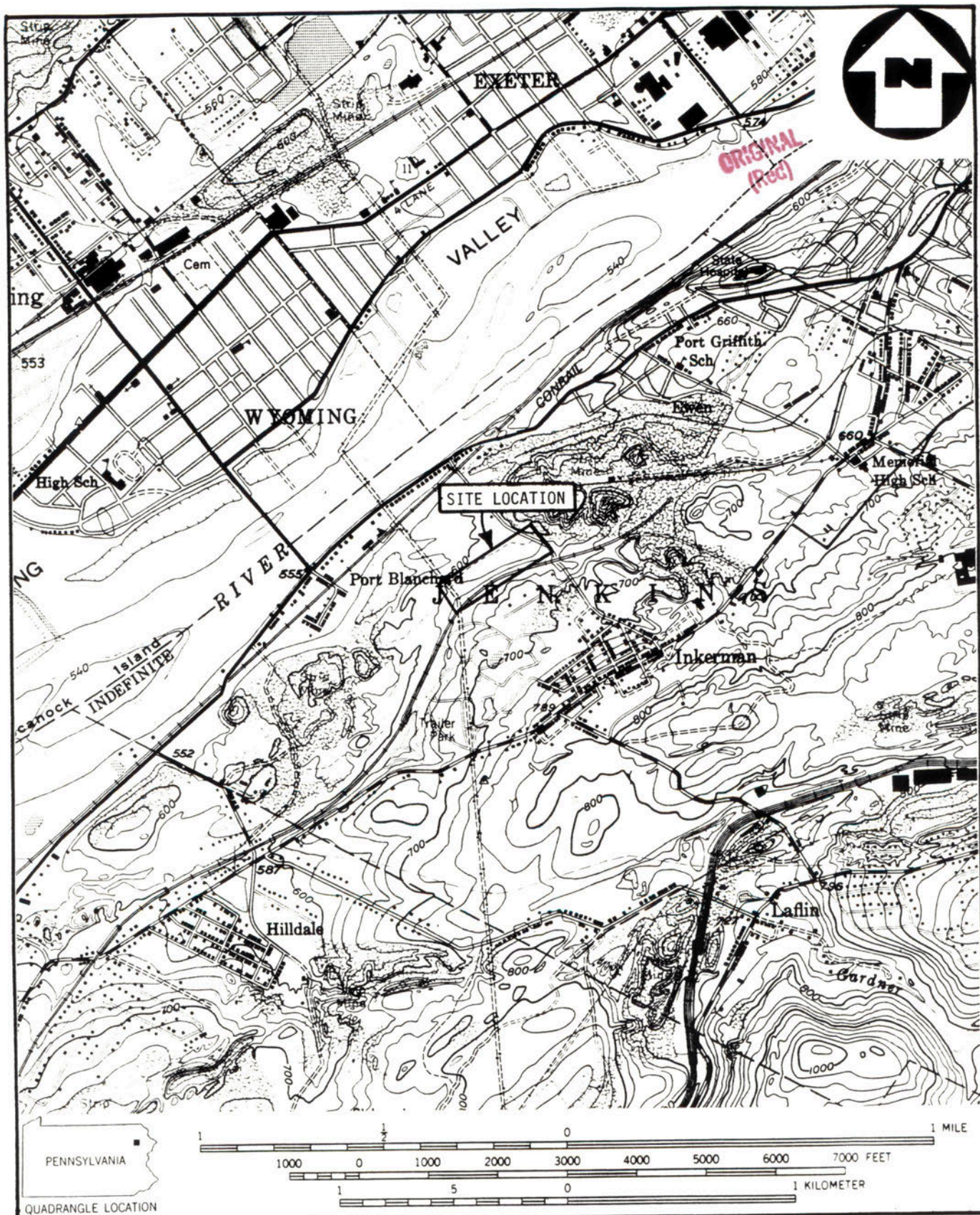
The Jenkins Township site is an inactive municipal landfill that is approximately 10 acres in size. The site is located approximately 1/4 mile south of the Susquehanna River (see figure 1, page 2). The site is currently owned by Jenkins Township. The landfill allegedly accepted municipal waste from Jenkins Township and the city of Pittston. The landfill also accepted paper waste from area businesses and flood damage waste that resulted from Hurricane Agnes in 1972. The site is surrounded by electrical power lines, railroad tracks, and large mounds of waste coal (see figure 2, page 3). John Dean, chairman of Jenkins Township, indicated that the landfill received approximately 200 yards of waste per week.

The landfill operated from 1964 to 1982, when it was closed by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (PA DER) for not possessing a solid waste disposal permit. The main concern, according to PA DER, is surface management and a lack of adequate cover material. The surface water management problem resulted in the formation of two large swamp areas that promote mosquito breeding during the summer months.

The lack of cover material has created unstable waste containment conditions at the site. These violations are documented in a PADER preliminary assessment report dated August 13, 1986.

FIT 3 visited the site on November 5, 1987 and observed conditions similar to those described in the PA DER preliminary assessment report. There were small swamp areas throughout the site and a lack of proper cover material. Additionally, several exposed waste piles consisting of car tires, plastic and glass bottles, and paper were observed at the site. John Dean, the chairman of Jenkins Township, and John Para, the former chairman, stated to FIT 3 that no hazardous wastes were disposed at the subject site.

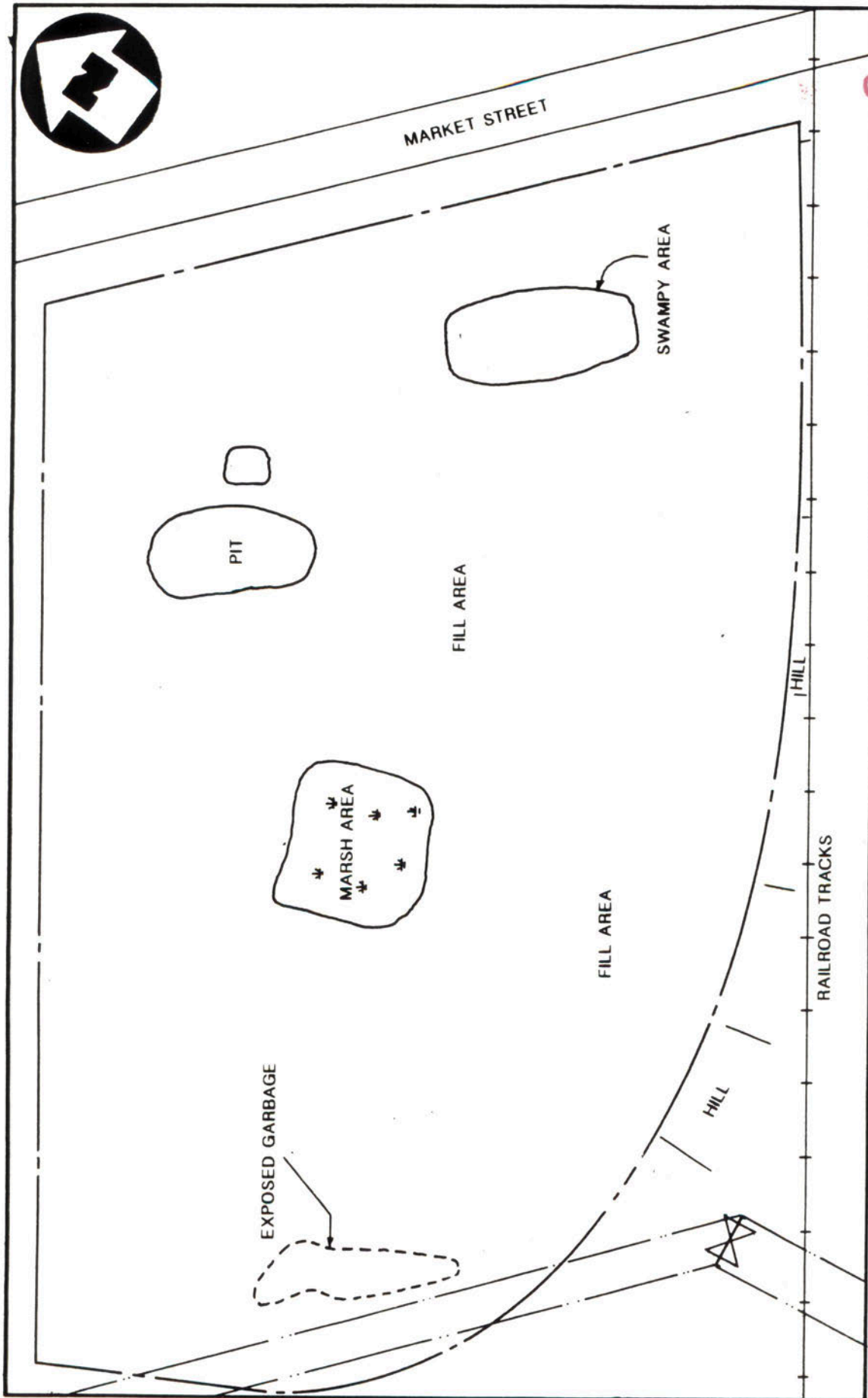
Site drainage patterns appear to be self-contained; all patterns converge to the low-lying areas of the site in a eastward direction. Also, there were no drainage patterns leading from the site to the Susquehanna River.



SOURCE : (7.5 MINUTE SERIES) U.S.G.S PITTSBURGH, PA., QUAD.

SITE LOCATION MAP
JENKINS TWP. LANDFILL, PORT BLANCHARD, PA.
 SCALE 1:24000

FIGURE 1
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FIGURE 2

SITE SKETCH

JENKINS TWP. LANDFILL, PORT BLANCHARD, PA.

(NO SCALE)



Land use in the site vicinity is primarily residential with a few small businesses in the area. The site is bordered on the north by the Susquehanna River, on the south by homes, on the east by culm banks, and on the west by a trailer court.

Sampling to Date

There has been no sampling to date at this site.

Drinking Water Supply

The Pennsylvania Gas and Water Company (PGW), Springbrook Division, supplies potable water for the residents surrounding the site. The company provides approximately 17 million gallons per day (mgd) to approximately 65,000 people living in the municipalities within the three-mile radius of the



An NUS FIT 3 home well survey indicated that there are no home wells within 1/4 mile of the site. All homes within the site vicinity are provided water by PGW, Springbrook Division.

Geology Information

The Jenkins Township Landfill site lies within the Appalachian Mountain Section of the Valley and Ridge Physiographic Province.¹

Bedrock underlying the site is the Pennsylvanian age Llewellyn Formation. The Llewellyn Formation consists of sandstone, conglomerate, shale, fire clay, slate, and numerous coal beds. Stratigraphic thickness is about 2,200 feet.^{2,3}

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The Pennsylvanian age Pottsville Formation stratigraphically underlies the Llewellyn Formation and crops out 1.75 miles northwest of the site. The Pottsville Formation is composed chiefly of coarse quartz conglomerate, white and gray sandstone, brown sandstone, and a few thin seams of coal. Stratigraphic thickness is about 300 feet.^{2,3}

The Mississippian age Mauch Chunk Formation stratigraphically underlies the Pottsville Formation and crops out two miles northwest of the site. The Mauch Chunk consists of interbedded grayish-red silty claystone, siltstone, and sandstone with locally prominent units of greenish-gray to grayish-red conglomeratic sandstone. Stratigraphic thickness is about 2,000 feet.^{2,3}

Stratigraphically underlying the Mauch Chunk Formation and cropping out 2.1 miles northwest of the site is the Mississippian age Pocono Formation. The Pocono Formations consists of coarse-grained sandstone and conglomeratic sandstone with some shale layers. Stratigraphic thickness is about 600 feet.^{2,3}

The soil underlying the site is mapped as Pope soils. The Pope Series soils are deep, well-drained, nearly level to gently dipping soils formed in mixed alluvial materials deposited by rivers. These soils are subject to occasional flooding. Runoff is slow and the hazard of erosion is slight.⁴

Groundwater Information

The effective porosity within the Llewellyn Formation is moderate. This porosity is due to both primary porosity, the interstitial void space between clastic grains, and secondary porosity, primarily due to fractures within the rocks subsequent to lithification. Well yields range from 2 to 50 gallons per minute (gpm).³

The Pottsville Formation yields moderate to large supplies of water. Well yields range from less than 5 to more than 150 gpm with a median well yield of 50 gpm.³

The Mauch Chunk Formation is one of the better water-producing units in Luzerne County. Well yields range from less than 5 gpm to 250 gpm.³

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The pore spaces (primary porosity) within the Pocono Formation are very small due to cementation, and most water moves through a system of interconnected joints and fractures (secondary porosity). Well yields range from 3 to 133 gpm with an average of 20 gpm.³

Groundwater flow from the site is expected to be to the northwest following the topography and eventually discharging in the Susquehanna River (adjacent to the site).³

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Summary of Activities

On November 5, 1987, NUS FIT 3 personnel (b) (4) conducted a non-sampling site reconnaissance of the Jenkins Township Landfill. FIT 3 was accompanied by Fred Karl, of PA DER, and John Dean and John Para, Jenkins Township officials. Weather conditions during the site visit were clear and sunny. Temperatures were in the high 40s.

Persons Contacted

Prior to Field Trip

John Dean
Chairman of Jenkins Township
46-1/2 Main Street
Inkerman, PA 18460
(717) 654-3315

At the Site

Fred Karl
PA DER
90 East Union Street, Second Floor
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18707
(717) 826-2516

John Dean
Chairman of Jenkins Township
46-1/2 Main Street
Inkerman, PA 18460
(717) 654-3315

John Para
Former Chairman of Jenkins Township
1475 River Road
Port Blanchard, PA 18460
(717) 655-1334

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Site Observations

- The HNU background reading was 0.1 ppm; no readings above background were recorded.
- The mini-alert setting was X1; no readings above background were recorded.
- The site was approximately 10 acres in size.
- The disposal site was unfenced and easily accessible.
- Railroad tracks run parallel to the site, northeast to southwest.
- There were several swamp areas throughout the site, all with dark ponded water and no distinct odor; all were approximately five feet long and five feet wide.
- A sewer system was being constructed approximately 200 yards west of the site.
- There were no stained soils observed on the site.
- There were several waste piles consisting of glass, old tires, and household refuse at the site.
- Site drainage appears to be self-contained; all patterns converge to the low-lying areas of the site in an eastward direction.
- There were no drainage patterns leading from the site to the Susquehanna River.

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Geology and Groundwater References

1. Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey. Physiographic Provinces of Pennsylvania. Map 13, Third Printing, 1979.
2. Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey. Atlas of Preliminary Geologic Quadrangle Maps of Pennsylvania. Map 61, 1981.
3. Pennsylvania Topographic and Geologic Survey. Summary: Groundwater Resources of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. Water Resource Report 40, 1977.
4. United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. Soil Survey of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. October 1981.

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ATTACHMENT 1

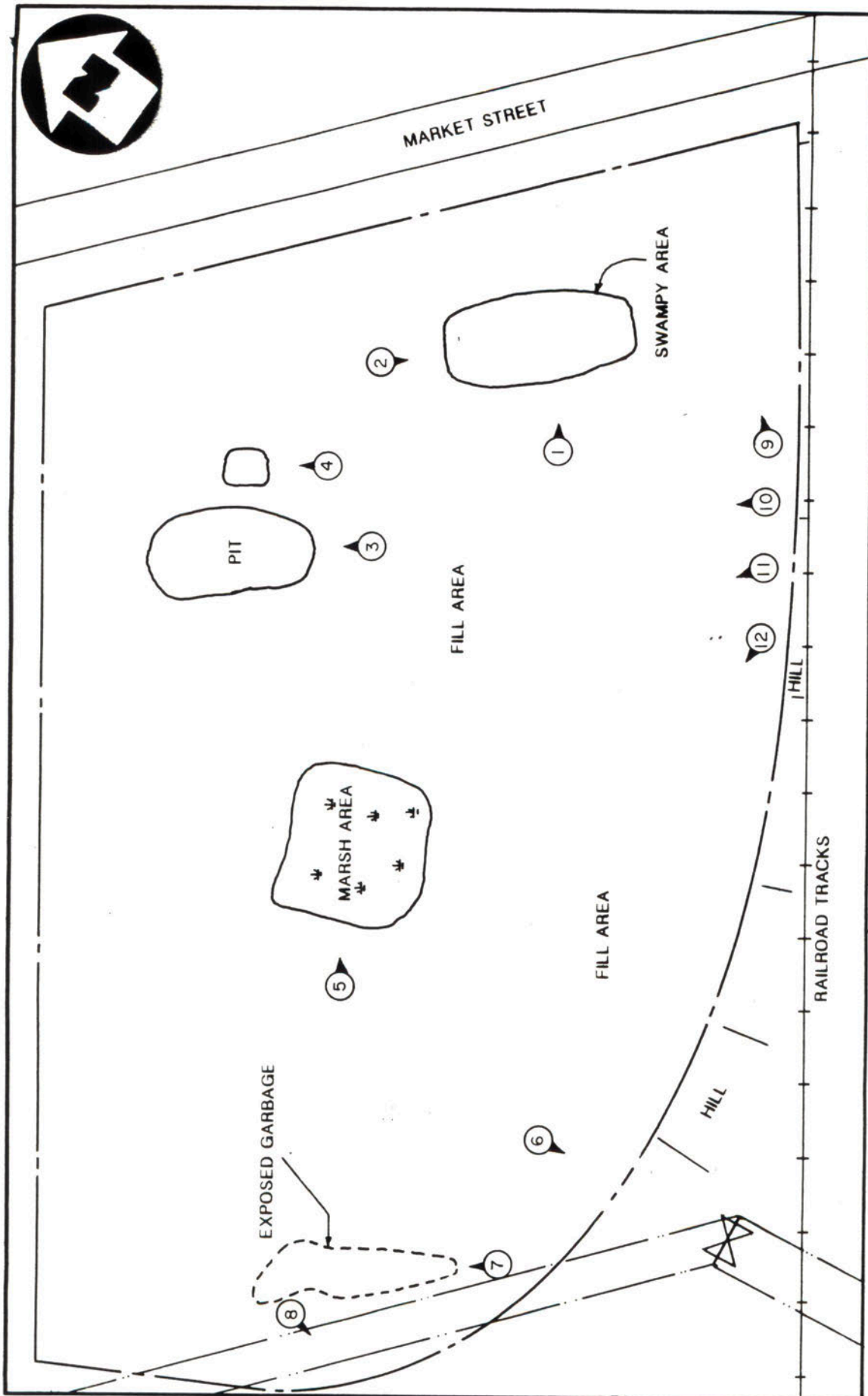


PHOTO LOCATION MAP
JENKINS TWP. LANDFILL, PORT BLANCHARD, PA.

(NO SCALE)